

II. General Remarks Concerning This Response

Claims 11-28 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 11-13 and 16-23 have been previously amended; claims 24-28 have been added in this response; and
5 claims 1-10 have been previously canceled. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

This supplemental response adds claims 24-28. No new matter has been introduced, and arguments against the current rejections were filed previously.

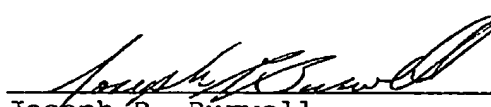
IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the present application is patentable, and Applicant kindly requests a Notice of Allowance.

For any other outstanding matters or issues, the examiner
15 is urged to call or fax the below-listed telephone numbers to expedite the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: March 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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